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County Employment and Wages in Nevada – Third Quarter 2016

Employment increased in Nevada's two large counties from September 2015 to September 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are defined as those with 2015 annual average employment of 75,000 or more.) Washoe County's employment rose 5.0 percent and Clark County's employment rose 3.7 percent. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the over-the-year employment increases in both counties exceeded the national increase of 1.7 percent.

Nationwide, employment increased in 307 of the 344 largest counties. York, S.C., had the largest percentage increase in the country, up 6.0 percent over the year. Midland, Texas, had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 5.8 percent.

Employment in Clark County (947,000) and Washoe County (214,800) accounted for 89.3 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 344 largest counties made up 72.5 percent of total U.S. employment, which stood at 142.9 million in September 2016.

From the third quarter of 2015 to the third quarter of 2016, average weekly wages increased in both Clark County (up 12.2 percent to \$947) and Washoe County (up 6.2 percent to \$932). Nationally, the average weekly wage increased 5.4 percent over the year to \$1,027 in the third quarter of 2016. (See [table 1.](#))

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 15 counties in Nevada with employment below 75,000. Average weekly wages in these counties ranged from \$1,730 to \$715 during the third quarter of 2016. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

Clark County's 12.2-percent gain in average weekly wages ranked first among the 344 large U.S. counties during the year ending in the third quarter of 2016. (See [table 1.](#)) Within Clark, an average weekly wage gain of \$151 (24 percent) in leisure and hospitality made the largest contribution to the county's increase in average weekly wages. The average weekly wage in Washoe County increased 6.2 percent over the year, ranking 117th among the largest U.S. counties. Nationwide, 339 large counties had over-the-year wage increases. Manatee, Fla., had the second largest wage increase (10.7 percent), followed by Hillsborough, N.H. (10.4 percent); and Boone, Ky., and Elkhart, Ind. (10.3 percent each).

Nationwide, five large counties experienced over-the-year wage decreases. Rockland, N.Y., had the largest wage decrease with a loss of 14.9 percent. Lafayette, La., had the second largest decrease in average weekly wages, down 3.4 percent from the third quarter 2015, followed by Benton, Ark. (-2.0 percent); Lake, Ill. (-0.9 percent); and Midland, Texas (-0.3 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Average weekly wages in both of Nevada's large counties were below the national average of \$1,027 per week. Clark County's \$947 average weekly wage ranked 172nd among the 344 large U.S. counties. At \$932 per week, Washoe County's average weekly wage placed 184th.

Average weekly wages were at or above the U.S. average (\$1,027) in 102 of the 344 largest U.S. counties in the third quarter of 2016. Santa Clara, Calif., recorded the highest average weekly wage at \$2,260, followed by San Mateo, Calif. (\$2,098); San Francisco, Calif. (\$1,892); New York, N.Y. (\$1,879); and Washington, D.C. (\$1,728).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 241 had weekly wages below the national average in the third quarter of 2016. Horry County, S.C., reported the lowest wage (\$632), followed by the Texas counties of Cameron (\$636) and Hidalgo (\$654).

Average weekly wages in Nevada's smaller counties

Of the 15 counties in Nevada with employment below 75,000, Eureka recorded the highest average weekly wage at \$1,730. Lincoln reported the lowest average weekly wage in the state at \$715 in the third quarter of 2016. (See [table 2.](#))

When all 17 counties in Nevada were considered 2 had wages below \$800. Three counties reported average weekly wages ranging from \$800 to \$899, six had wages from \$900 to \$999, and six had wages at or above \$1000. (See [chart 1.](#))

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2015 edition of this publication, which was published in September 2016, contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2016 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2015* are now available online at <https://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn15.htm>. The 2016 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2017.

The County Employment and Wages release for fourth quarter 2016 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, June 7, 2017.

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The 9.8 million employer reports cover 142.9 million full- and part-time workers. The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas

may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cew/; however, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the 2 largest counties in Nevada, third quarter 2016

Area	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	September 2016 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2015-16 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, third quarter 2015-16 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	142,940.5	1.7	--	\$1,027	--	5.4	--
Nevada	1,300.7	3.8	--	949	25	10.1	1
Clark, Nev.	947.0	3.7	34	947	172	12.2	1
Washoe, Nev.	214.8	5.0	5	932	184	6.2	117

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Nevada, third quarter 2016

Area	Employment September 2016	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	142,940,452	\$1,027
Nevada	1,300,676	949
Carson City	28,666	948
Churchill	7,732	871
Clark	946,956	947
Douglas	18,947	847
Elko	22,172	919
Esmeralda	362	1,003
Eureka	4,529	1,730
Humboldt	7,621	1,071
Lander	3,319	1,437
Lincoln	1,246	715
Lyon	11,738	775
Mineral	1,625	895
Nye	11,252	993
Pershing	1,852	1,018
Storey	6,743	986
Washoe	214,834	932
White Pine	4,083	1,063

Footnotes(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

NOTE: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, third quarter 2016

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	September 2016 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2015-16	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, third quarter 2015-16	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	142,940.5	1.7	1027	--	5.4	--
Alabama	1,923.8	1.5	870	36	4.9	38
Alaska	337.4	-2.6	1055	12	1.2	49
Arizona	2,695.5	3.1	950	24	6.9	5
Arkansas	1,205.4	1.0	794	48	5.2	32
California	16,871.1	2.4	1210	4	6.7	8
Colorado	2,576.5	2.6	1062	10	5.6	23
Connecticut	1,674.2	0.3	1204	5	5	34
Delaware	440.7	0.8	1022	16	5.6	23
District of Columbia	759.2	1.7	1728	1	3.8	45
Florida	8,320.2	3.7	905	29	6.2	14
Georgia.....	4,290.4	2.9	969	21	5.9	18
Hawaii.....	648.4	1.8	956	23	6.7	8
Idaho	703.7	3.5	782	50	6.3	12
Illinois	5,933.6	0.6	1062	10	4.4	40
Indiana.....	3,025.9	1.8	866	37	5.9	18
Iowa	1,548.6	0.8	873	35	6.2	14
Kansas	1,377.2	0.5	857	39	5.9	18
Kentucky.....	1,880.2	1.5	857	39	6.5	10
Louisiana	1,908.8	-0.9	883	32	2.9	48
Maine.....	616.2	0.9	825	45	5.9	18
Maryland.....	2,648.1	1.4	1124	8	5.3	30
Massachusetts	3,522.9	2.0	1277	2	6.8	7
Michigan	4,292.2	2.1	976	19	5.9	18
Minnesota.....	2,849.5	1.6	1053	13	6.4	11
Mississippi.....	1,126.9	0.7	739	51	4.7	39
Missouri	2,782.1	1.6	888	30	5	34
Montana	464.5	1.5	792	49	4.3	41
Nebraska	973.9	0.9	857	39	5.5	26
Nevada	1,300.7	3.8	949	25	10.1	1
New Hampshire.....	655.0	1.8	1027	15	7.9	2
New Jersey.....	4,000.0	1.8	1173	7	5	34
New Mexico	811.5	0.2	830	44	4	43
New York	9,216.6	1.6	1222	3	3.5	46
North Carolina	4,290.3	2.3	909	28	5.3	30
North Dakota	423.2	-3.4	964	22	0.7	50
Ohio	5,347.3	1.1	924	26	5.4	27
Oklahoma	1,578.7	-1.3	854	42	3.5	46
Oregon	1,866.5	2.6	970	20	5.2	32
Pennsylvania	5,776.7	1.0	1013	17	5.4	27
Rhode Island	481.1	0.8	990	18	7.6	3
South Carolina.....	2,008.6	2.5	832	43	5.6	23
South Dakota.....	424.2	1.1	809	47	7	4
Tennessee	2,918.8	2.5	912	27	5.4	27
Texas	11,830.7	1.3	1042	14	4.3	41
Utah	1,407.4	3.8	881	33	6.3	12
Vermont.....	309.9	0.5	880	34	6.2	14
Virginia.....	3,801.0	1.0	1063	9	5	34
Washington.....	3,278.9	3.0	1188	6	6.9	5
West Virginia	691.5	-1.6	816	46	3.9	44
Wisconsin	2,850.1	1.0	885	31	6.2	14
Wyoming	274.8	-4.7	865	38	0	51
Puerto Rico.....	888.2	-0.4	524	(3)	2.3	(3)
Virgin Islands.....	37.4	1.4	778	(3)	5.9	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

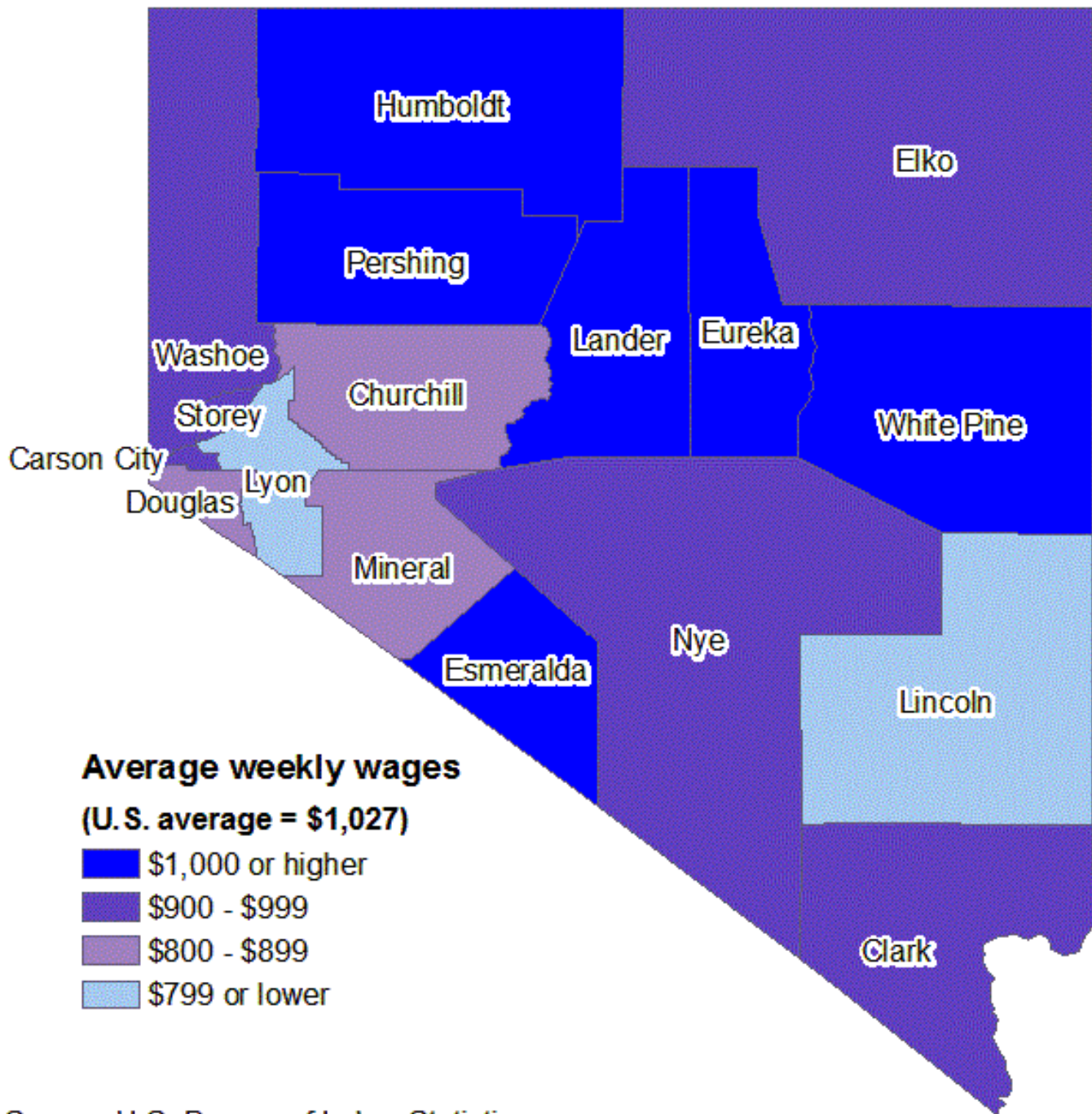
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county in Nevada, third quarter 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.